

# CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

**MEETING OF:** PERFORMANCE & OVERVIEW COMMITTEE  
**DATE:** 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023  
**REPORT OF:** HEAD OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENT  
**AUTHOR:** GM AARON COLLIS

---

**SUBJECT:** HMICFRS 2021 INSPECTION ACTION PLAN  
CLOSEDOWN

---

## Purpose of Report

1. To inform the Performance and Programme Board that final progress has been made against the Action Plan created in response to the identified 'Areas for Improvement' (AFI) from the 2021 HMICFRS inspection report relating to Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS).

## Recommended: That

- [1] the contents of the action plan are noted.
- [2] Members agree the closedown of the action plan with the three open items to be monitored alongside the action plan that will be developed in response to the report issued following the 2023 inspection.

## Background

2. The Action Plan was last considered by the Performance and Overview Committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2022. Significant progress was made in preparation for the Service's third inspection by HMICFRS which took place in March 2023. An updated version of the Action Plan is included as Appendix 1 to this report.
3. The Action Plan included identified measures of success and evidence for each 'Area for Improvement' (AFI). The Service Improvement department has tracked the progress against each AFI which has allowed CFRS to provide positive evidence to HMICFRS during the latest inspection.
4. The Action Plan also included 'suggestions' for improvements based on comments of lesser significance in the HMICFRS report. Progress has also been made against these suggestions and they have been tracked in the same way.

## **Information**

5. The Service received its 'Hot Debrief' from HMICFRS in April 2023. Whilst this did not provide graded judgements or explicit confirmation that AFIs have been satisfied, early indications were that inspectors were pleased with the progress made in most areas with exception of the AFI around operational learning and debriefing. Inspectors reported that they found this area required further refinement to improve consistency.
6. It is anticipated that HMICFRS' report relating to the 2023 inspection will be published by August 2023. A new Action Plan pertaining to any AFIs will be produced following this publication. It is proposed to monitor any outstanding matters from Round 2 alongside the Action Plan relating to the 2023 inspection.

## **Financial Implications**

7. None.

## **Legal Implications**

8. None.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

9. None.

## **Environmental Implications**

10. None.

**CONTACT: KIRSTY JENNINGS, GOVERNANCE OFFICER**

**TEL [01606] 868814**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS: NONE**

### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix A – HMICFRS Action Plan